

**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

USGS Quad: Whale Mountain
T,R,Section(s) T8N, R23E Section 36, T7N, R23E,
Section 1, T15N R 24 E Section 6,
Thomas Bros: San Bernardino and Riverside
Counties, 2003 edition, page 352, Section C10
Planning Area:
Community: N/A
OLUD: N/A
Improvement Level: N/A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

1. Project Title: Moabi Regional Park Improvements

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

County of San Bernardino
Department of Public Works, Regional Parks Division
777 East Rialto Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0763

3. Contact person and phone number:

Maureen Snelgrove, Program Manager
(909) 387-2591

4. Project location:

The existing Moabi Regional Park is located approximately 11 miles southeast of the City of Needles within an unincorporated portion of San Bernardino County.

5. Project sponsor's name and address:

County of San Bernardino
Department of Public Works, Regional Parks Division
777 East Rialto Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0763

6. Description of project:

Project Summary

Moabi Regional Park is located along the western edge of the Colorado River, approximately 11 miles southeast of the City of Needles, in an unincorporated portion of the County of San Bernardino (see Figure 1). The park encompasses approximately 1,027 acres of land that is owned by the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Reclamation and the California State Lands Commission, and is leased by the County of San Bernardino Regional Parks Division. The Moabi Regional Park incorporates a multitude of recreational amenities for park users including Recreational Vehicle (RV) and tent camping, boating, swimming, fishing, off-highway vehicle trails, and a mobile home park. There are several year-round residents at the mobile home park. The park also includes a boat-launching ramp, boat refueling station, snack bar and bait shop. In 2002/2003, over 295,000 people visited the park.

The County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works, Regional Parks Division is proposing a series of improvements at the existing Moabi Regional Park (see Figure 2). These parkland improvements include the following:

- Retrofitting/expanding the existing main camping area restroom facility to include shower facilities (Photo 1)
- Retrofitting exiting restrooms along the peninsula with showers (Photo 2)
- Construction of up to five new restroom facilities with showers along the peninsula (Figure 2)
- Construction of sewer system to serve existing and proposed restroom/showers on the peninsula (Figure 2)
- Connection of existing RV camp hook-ups sites to the peninsula sewer system (see Photo3)
- Rebuilding and expansion (by 30 square feet) of the already sewerred tent area restroom (Photo 7)
- Replacement of the already sewerred single-stall marina restroom (Photo 8) with an approximate 100 square foot Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant restroom
- Demolition of the existing five-lane boat launching ramp and northern dock with shade ramada (Figures 3 and 5)
- Construction of a new seven-lane boat launching ramp and new dock with shade ramada, (Figure 3)
- Relocation of the existing northern courtesy dock to accommodate the expanded boat ramp (Figure 3)
- The extension of the existing southern courtesy dock to incorporate the Sheriff's Department administrative dock (Figure 3)
- Resurfacing of the existing 125,000 square-foot boat and trailer parking area
- Other minor restroom repair/replacement projects may also be undertaken with Proposition 12 grant monies

Construction activities associated with the placement of sewer lines to serve the existing and proposed restrooms and RV camp area would occur along existing roadways in areas previously disturbed. No construction is proposed in any previously undisturbed areas of the park.

Purpose And Need For The Project:

Currently, the existing gravity sewer collection system on-site provides service for the County ranger station, mobile home park and boat ramp areas. A three-cell sewage percolation/evaporation lagoon provides treatment for the existing system (see Photo 4). The existing RV camp area and existing/proposed restroom/shower facilities are located within an area of the park referred to as the peninsula. The existing RV camp area is currently equipped with electrical hook-up pedestals and potable water. Currently the peninsula area is not served by a sewer collection system. Wastewater from the restrooms is collected in holding tanks which are pumped by a contractor; all waste and wastewater is hauled off-site. The proposed project would include the construction of a centralized low-pressure sewer system to serve the peninsula area. The new sewer collection system would be connected to the existing and proposed new restroom/shower facilities and RV hook up pedestals on the peninsula. Wastewater disposal would be via the evaporation lagoon system that presently serves as the disposal site for wastewater collected by the existing sewer system serving the ranger station, mobile home park and boat ramp area.

Proposed park improvements also include additional recreational amenities for patrons including the construction of new seven-lane launch ramp and dock with shade ramada. Improvements at the boat launching

area also include the extension of the existing southern courtesy dock to incorporate the existing Sheriff's Department administrative dock.

Additional restrooms and new shower facilities would meet the needs of park patrons. One restroom facility being replaced is currently non ADA compliant. Repaving of the existing parking lot is required for general maintenance.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

Construction of the proposed improvements would occur during the park's off-peak season (September through December) and in one phase.

ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS:

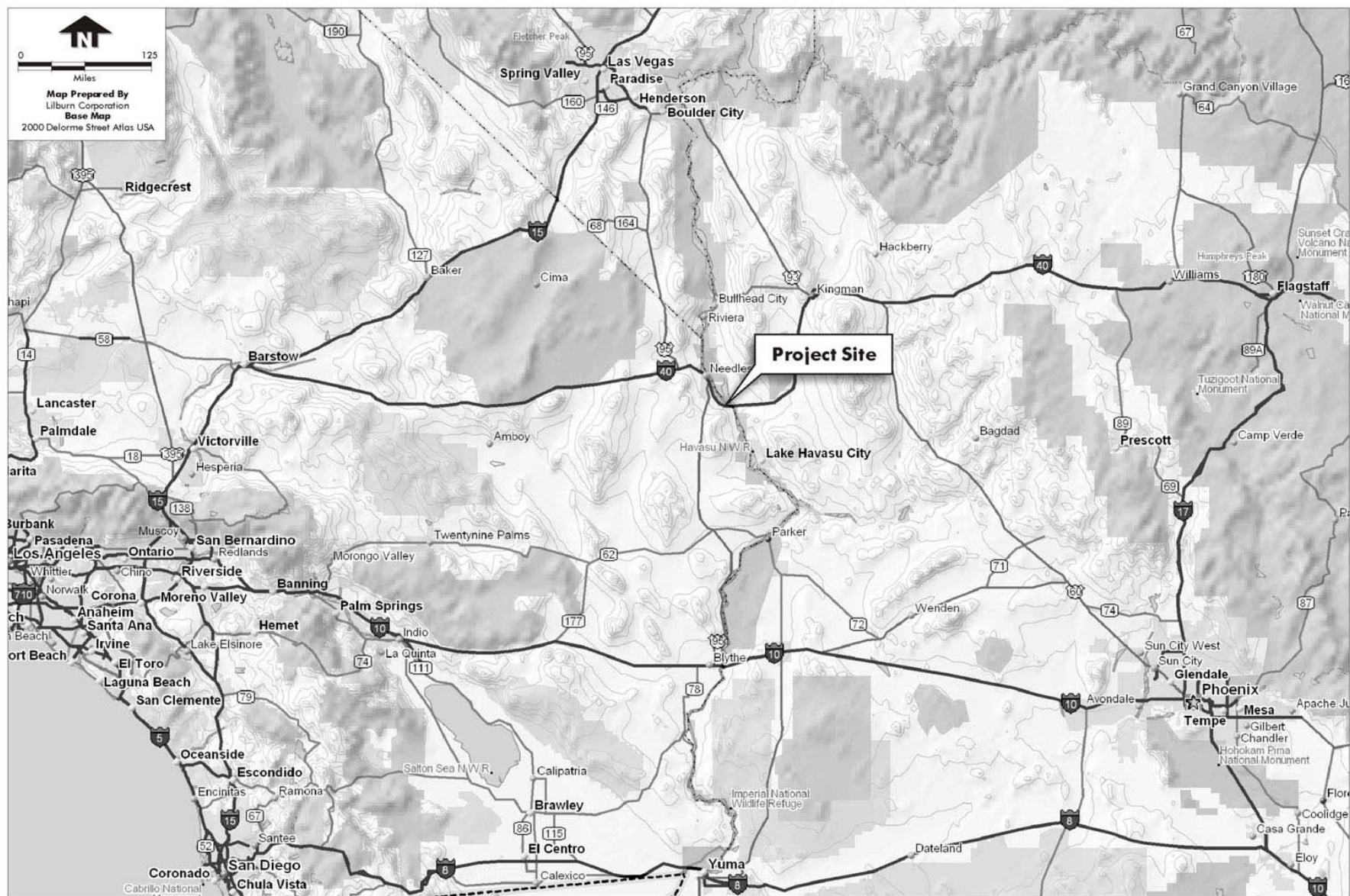
The Moabi Regional Park is located along the western shore of the Colorado River, west of Topock Marsh and the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. The project site is within the Mohave Valley and is bordered by the Sacramento Mountains to the southwest, the Dead Mountains to the northeast, the Chemehuevi Mountains to the south, and the Black Mountains to the northeast.

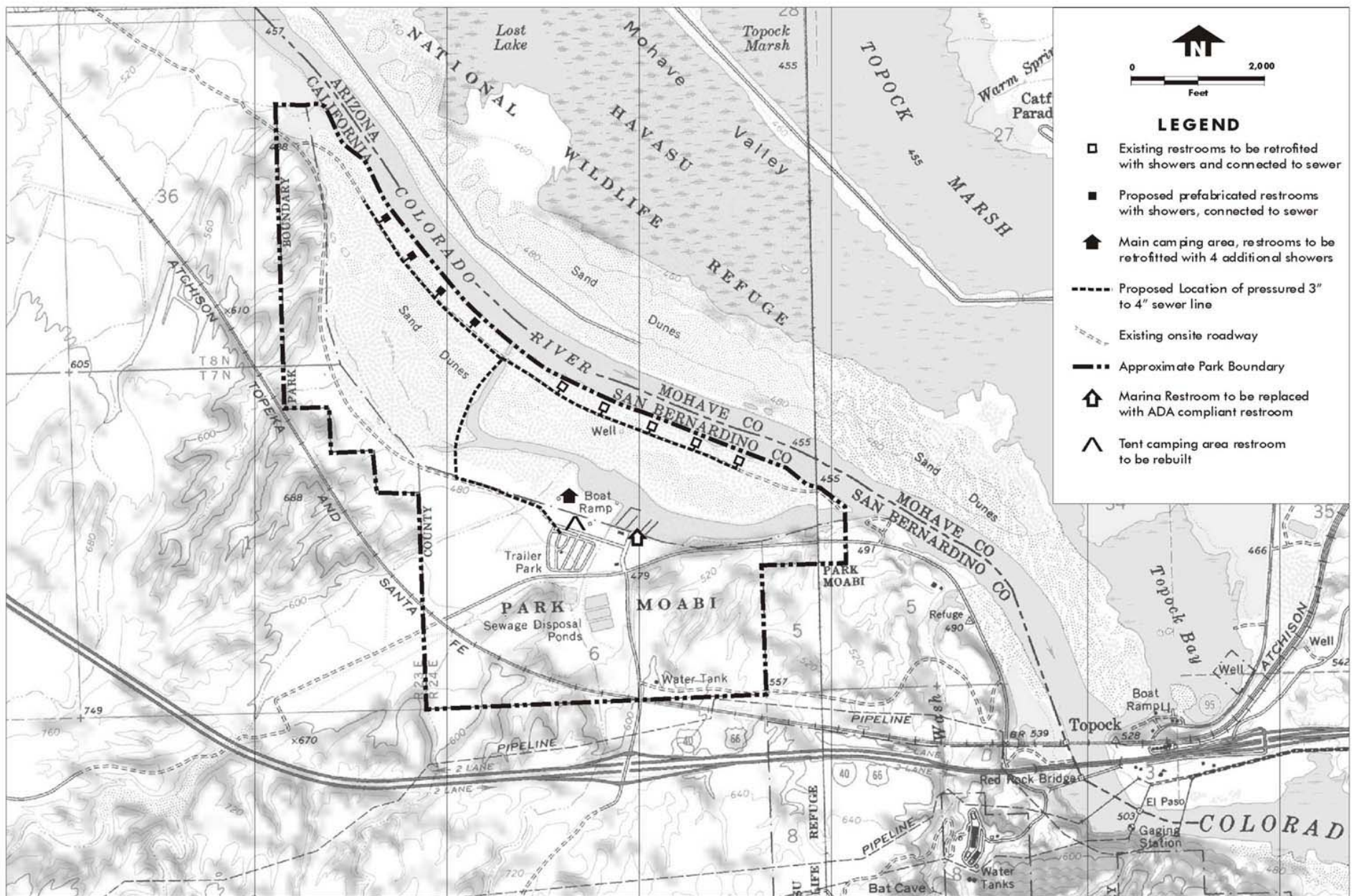
Vegetation communities within the project vicinity are described as Lower Colorado River Subdivision of the Sonoran Desertscrub. A small bulrush (*Scirpus californicus*) stand occurs to the southeast of the existing boat launch ramp. Bulrush stands also occur across the channel from the launch ramp. Vegetation on the peninsula across from the launch ramp includes arrow weed (*Pluchea sericea*), small tamarish (*Tamarix*) trees, Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*), as well as some shrubby honey mesquite. Desertscrub occurs in some areas of the peninsula, characterized by paloverde (*Cercidium floridum*) trees, creosotebush (*Larrea tridentata*), and catclaw acacia (*Acacia greggii*). Wildlife observed in the vicinity of the launch ramp included American coots, mallards, and green sunfish.

SURROUNDING LAND USES:

The regional park site is designated in the San Bernardino County General Plan as Resource Conservation. Surrounding current land uses and zoning designations include:

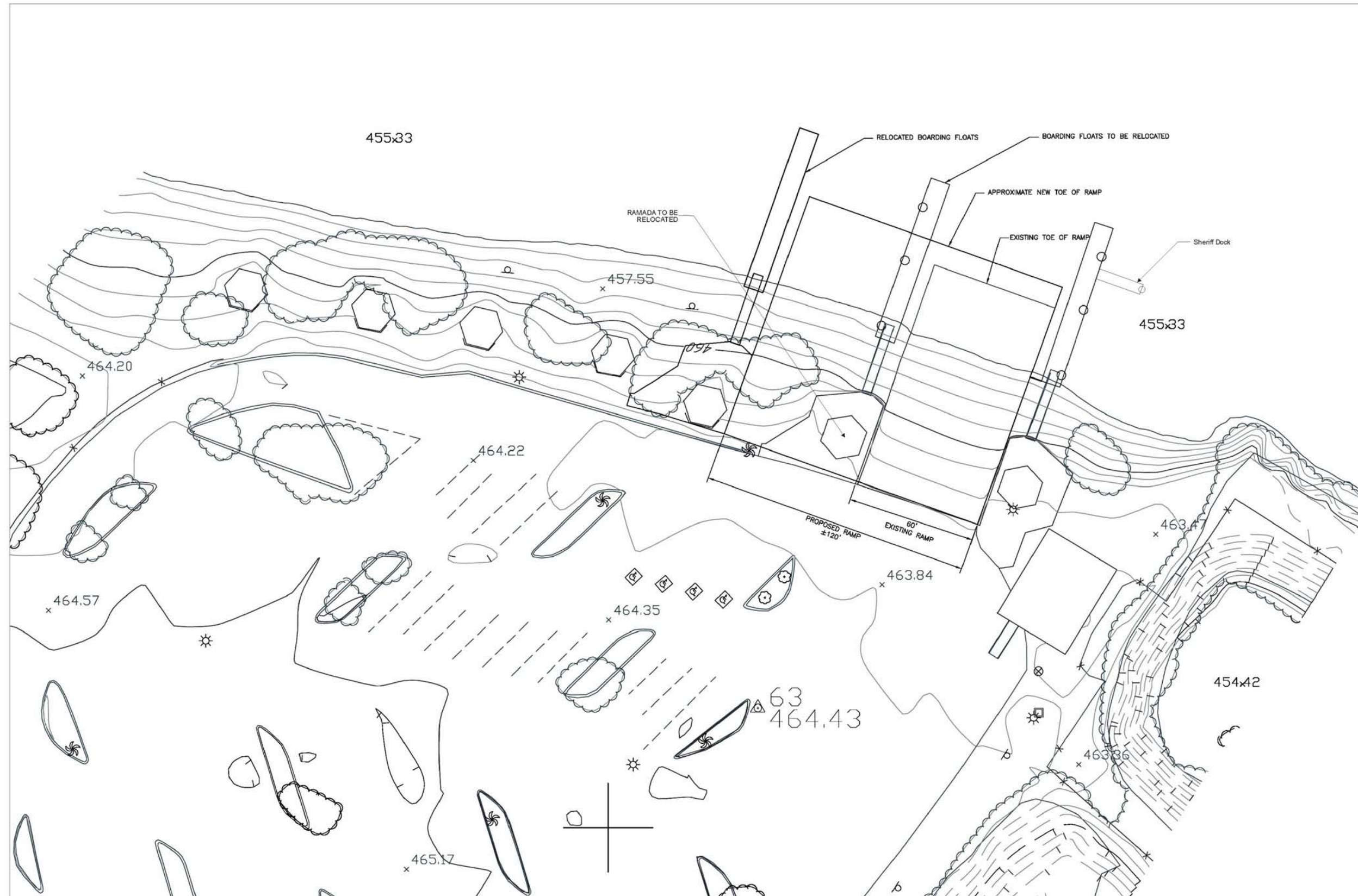
	EXISTING LAND USE	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY OFFICIAL LAND USE DESIGNATION
North	Havasu National Wildlife Refuge	Resource Conservation
South	Open Space	Resource Conservation
East	Open Space	Resource Conservation
West	Open Space	Resource Conservation





Project Site

County of San Bernardino - Park Moabi
San Bernardino County, California



Source: Concept Marine Associates, 2004.

Proposed Boat Launch Renovation Area

County of San Bernardino - Park Moabi
San Bernardino County, California



Photo 1 – Main camping area Restroom/Shower to be expanded.



Photo 2 – Typical Peninsula Restroom to have showers added and be connected to sewer system.



Photo 3 – Typical RV Hook-up to be upgraded to include sewer connection.



Photo 4 – Septage Drying beds.



Photo 5 – Boat Ramp and Marina Ramadas.



Photo 6 – Boat Ramp Ramada to be removed.



Photo 7 – Currently sewered Tent Camping Area Restroom to be reconstructed and expanded by 30 square feet.



Photo 8 – Currently sewered Marina Restroom to be replaced with new 100 square foot ADA compliant restroom.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

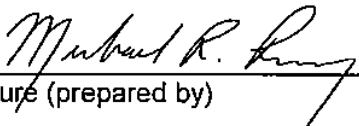
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

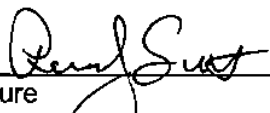
- ☐ The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Signature (prepared by)

September 19, 2004

Date



Signature
Randy Scott, Division Chief
Advanced Planning Division
Land Use Services Department



Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Pursuant to Section 15063 of CEQA Guidelines, an explanation is required for all "Potentially Significant Impact," "Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigation Incorporated," and "Less Than Significant Impact" answers, including a discussion of ways to mitigate the significant effects identified.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS — Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check ___ if project is located within the viewshed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan):

- a-c) Moabi Regional Park could be considered itself a scenic resource because it provides 1,027 acres of open space and views of the adjacent Colorado River. Proposed improvements would provide additional amenities for park patrons including up to five new restrooms and construction of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, rebuilding and 30 sf. expansion of the existing tent camping area restroom and replacement of a single stall restroom in the marina area with a 100 sf. ADA compliant restroom. Improvements also include sewer hook-ups at all RV campsites. Proposed renovations at the boat launching area would also add to the aesthetic amenities provided at the park. Proposed improvements would occur on previously disturbed land and would not require the removal of any on-site trees. The County of San Bernardino General Plan does not designate the site as a scenic resource. Therefore, no impacts to scenic vistas, scenic resources or existing visual character at the site would result from the proposed project.
- d) New restroom facilities on-site may require the installation of low-level lighting to ensure appropriate illumination at nighttime. Proposed lighting would not impact the existing mobile home park, because lighting would be directed away from residents. There are no other residential developments or other sensitive receptors within the vicinity of the site. Proposed restroom structures would have a similar design to existing restrooms on-site, which are small in scale, and therefore would not produce a significant amount of glare for park patrons or mobile home residents. The new seven-lane boat launching ramp and dock would be similar in design to the existing ramp and dock, and would produce minimal glare as currently experienced within this area. No impacts from new light and glare sources would result from the proposed improvements.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES — In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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SUBSTANTIATION (check ☐ if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

a-c) All of the proposed improvements would take place at the existing Moabi Regional Park. According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan Land Use Map (EKFK "A"), the site and surrounding area are designated Resource Conservation and contain no farmland or agricultural resources. Therefore no impacts to prime farmland would result.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY — Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (discuss conformity with the South Coast Air Quality Management Plan, if applicable):

- a-b) Moabi Regional Park is located within the Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB) and is under the jurisdiction of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD). Dispersion of pollutants in the MDAB is influenced by periodic temperature inversions, persistent meteorological conditions, and the local topography. The MDAB is an approximately 21,000 square-mile area and encompasses the desert portion of San Bernardino, Los Angeles and Kern counties, and the Palo Verde Valley in eastern Riverside County. The MDAQMD has jurisdiction over that portion of the MDAB within San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Dispersion of pollutants in the MDAB is influenced by periodic temperature inversions, persistent meteorological conditions and the local topography. As pollutants become more concentrated in the atmosphere, photochemical reactions occur, producing ozone and other oxidants.

The proposed project was screened using the Urban Emission Model 2002 (URBEMIS 2002) prepared by Jones & Stokes under the guidance of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The program generates emissions estimates for land use development projects. Table 1 shows project emissions associated with the demolition of the existing boat launch ramp. Table 2 shows project emissions associated with trenching for the low-pressure sewer system, grading of the proposed restroom/shower area and boat launch area. Table 3 shows project emissions associated with construction of restrooms, showers, and boat ramp area improvements.

Table 1
Moabi Regional Park
Existing Boat Launch Ramp Demolition
URBEMIS 2002 Construction Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NOx	CO	PM10
Fugitive Dust	-	-	-	0.14
Off-road diesel	-	-	-	-
On-road diesel	0.02	0.56	0.09	0.01
Worker Trips	-	-	-	-
Totals (lbs/day)	0.02	0.56	0.09	0.15
MDAQMD Threshold	137	137	548	82
Significant?	No	No	No	No

Table 2
Moabi Regional Park
Grading/Earth Moving Emissions
(Trenching for Low-Pressure Sewer System,
Grading of Proposed Restroom/Shower Areas, and Boat Launch Ramp Area)
URBEMIS 2002 Construction Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NOx	CO	PM10
Fugitive Dust	-	-	-	7.60
Off-road diesel	8.61	72.10	59.00	3.36
On-road diesel	-	-	-	-
Worker Trips	0.10	0.18	1.96	0.01
Totals (lbs/day)	8.71	72.28	60.96	10.97
MDAQMD Threshold	137	137	548	82
Significant?	No	No	No	No

Table 3
Moabi Regional Park
Construction Emissions
(Restrooms, Showers, Boat Ramp Area Improvements)
URBEMIS 2002 Construction Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NOx	CO	PM10
Off-road diesel	4.19	34.75	28.44	1.62
Worker Trips	-	-	-	-
Architectural Coating	-	-	-	-
Totals (lbs/day)	4.19	34.75	28.44	1.62
MDAQMD Threshold	137	137	548	82
Significant?	No	No	No	No

Generally, construction projects of this size would not exceed MDAQMD thresholds for NOx and PM₁₀ during grading activities. Tables 1, 2 and 3 show that construction related project emissions would not exceed thresholds. However, since the project is in a non-attainment basin for the constituents in Table 1, the construction contract requirements shall include the following:

- The construction contractor shall select the construction equipment used on-site based on low emission factors and high-energy efficiency. The construction contractor shall ensure the construction grading plans include a statement that all construction equipment will be tuned and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- The construction contractor shall utilize electric or clean alternative fuel powered equipment where feasible.
- The construction contractor shall ensure that construction-grading plans include a statement that work crews will shut off equipment when not in use.

- Construction area and unpaved roadways shall be treated with water twice a day to control dust.

c-d) None of the proposed improvements would exceed MDAQMD thresholds for emissions and therefore would not result in cumulatively considerable net increases in any criteria pollutants. Existing sensitive receptors including the on-site mobile home park located approximately 200 feet southeast of proposed improvement areas, would not be significantly impacted by dust during construction, as emission levels during construction would be below MDAQMD thresholds, and standard construction practices (i.e. watering haul roads) would be implemented.

e) Operation of a low-pressure sewer system on-site could produce objectionable odors. Odors associated with sewer systems occur when wastewater is retained in the pipeline and hydrogen sulfide begins to be produced. With increase retention time, the effluent becomes totally septic. The actual length of detention time required to cause nuisance conditions varies with on-site temperatures and sulfate concentrations. Based on the issue of odor production, there are two concerns that must be identified: 1) short-term daily or weekly “no-flow” conditions; and 2) long-term season “no flow” conditions. When wet wells and the pipe network remain full of sewage, gradually anaerobic conditions arise. To ensure that nuisance conditions do not develop on-site, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

- 1. A periodic flushing system shall be installed to allow flushing of the wet wells and pipelines. The system shall be chosen based on flexibility so that the operator can modify the flush characteristics (i.e. frequency, timing, and duration) to accommodate various field and system conditions.**

Based on the Low-Pressure Sewer System Design Report prepared for the Moabi Regional Park by Frazer Engineering, Inc., main lines should be flushed when a prolonged no-flow condition is predicted, flushing wet wells and utilizing chemical injection in the main lines would accommodate weekly “no-flow” conditions, and daily “no-flow” conditions could be controlled by chemical injection.

Another location for potential odor generation is at the existing lagoon during discharge. To ensure odors are minimized during discharge the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

- 2. The low-pressure sewer system shall be constructed to discharge along the floor of the first lagoon cell adjacent to the existing forcemain discharge.**

Implementation of Mitigation Measures 1 and 2 would ensure potential odor generation is minimized. Impacts would be less than significant.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay __ or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database __):

- a-d) In November 2003, a Biological Evaluation was prepared for the site by Himes Consulting LLC, and is included in Appendix A of this Initial Study. The Moabi Regional Park is located along the western shore of the Colorado River, west of Topock Marsh and the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. The project sites lies within the Mohave Valley and is bordered by the Sacramento Mountains to the southwest, the Dead Mountains to the northeast, the Chemehuevi Mountains to the south, and the Black Mountains to the northeast.

Vegetation communities within the project vicinity are described as Lower Colorado River Subdivision of the Sonoran Desertscrub. A small bulrush (*Scirpus californicus*) stand occurs to the southeast of the existing boat launch ramp. Bulrush stands also occur across the channel from the launch ramp. Vegetation on the peninsula across from the launch ramp includes arrow weed (*Pluchea sericea*), small tamarish (*Tamarix*) trees, Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*), as well as some shrubby honey mesquite. Desertscrub occurs in some areas of the peninsula, characterized by paloverde (*Cercidium floridum*) trees, creosotebush (*Larrea tridentata*), and catclaw acacia (*Acacia greggii*).

Native vegetation in the vicinity of the boat launch ramp has been removed due to park improvements, including parking lot, boat launch ramp, and beach areas and landscaped trees occur near the shore of the boat launch ramp vicinity. Wildlife observed in the vicinity of the launch ramp included American coots, mallards, and green sunfish.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) were contacted for a list of federally-listed, proposed, and candidate species which may occur in San Bernardino County. The following federally listed species, which could potentially be impacted by proposed improvements, are discussed herein for both land (sewer and pipe network, new restrooms and RV hook-up sites) and near-water (boat launch ramp) improvement areas.

Proposed site improvements associated with installation of a low-pressure sewer system and related pipelines, RV sewer hook-ups, and construction of up to five new restrooms and shower facilities within the existing and proposed restrooms, would occur entirely within previously disturbed areas and/or along existing roadways. No federal or state listed species would be impacted from construction activities proposed within the peninsula area.

The following federally endangered and sensitive species, which may occur near the boat launch ramp area, could potentially be impacted by demolition/construction activities proposed for the area.

Federally Endangered Species

Bonytail Chub – The bonytail chub (*Gila elegans*) is a federally-listed endangered species. Critical habitat for the bonytail chub was designated in 1994 and includes the Colorado River from Hoover Dam to Davis Dam and from the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge to Parker Dam. The proposed project area is located within designated Critical Habitat for the bonytail chub. Proposed expansion of the boat launch ramp would result in a minor modification of designated Critical Habitat for the bonytail chub. However, the boat launch ramp is located in a backwater area not typical of bonytail chub habitat. Therefore proposed renovations activities at the existing boat launch ramp would not adversely affect the bonytail chub.

Razorback Sucker – The razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) is a federally listed endangered species. Critical habitat is designated along the Colorado River and its 100-year floodplain from the confluence of the Pariah River to Hoover Dam, including Lake Mead, and from Parker Dam to Imperial Dam. The proposed project is not located within designated Critical Habitat. However, the waters near the boat launch ramp area provide potential open water and backwater habitat for the razorback sucker. Renovation of the boat launch ramp would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water. It is anticipated that razorback suckers, if present, would move out of the construction area as these types of sounds typically frighten fish. Proposed demolition/construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, between September and December, and therefore would not disrupt the spawning and recruitment period (January through June) for the razorback sucker. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

Yuma Clapper Rail – The Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) is listed as endangered by the federal government without designated Critical Habitat. The waters near the boat launch ramp area do not contain suitable habitat for the Yuma clapper rail. A small stand of bulrush occurs approximately 100 feet southeast of the boat ramp renovation project area, and a larger stand of bulrush occurs across the channel (approximately 250 feet) to the northeast of the boat launch ramp. As the Yuma clapper rail may occur in the vicinity of the boat launch ramp project site due to the proximity of the Topock Marsh, the bulrush areas could provide potential habitat for the Yuma clapper rail. No direct impacts to these bulrush stands would occur as a result of the proposed boat ramp renovation. Launch ramp renovation activities would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water, which could disturb the Yuma clapper rail if present. Proposed construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, September and December, which is outside of the clapper rail nesting season. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

Sensitive Species

The flannemouth sucker is a sensitive species that was determined to potentially occur within the vicinity of the boat launch ramp area. The flannemouth sucker (*Catostomus fetipinnis*) is considered common within the Colorado River drainage from southwest Wyoming to southern Arizona. The proposed boat launch ramp expansion area provides potential habitat for the flannemouth sucker. Launch ramp renovation activities would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water, which could disturb the flannemouth sucker if present. Proposed construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, from September through December, and therefore would not disrupt the spawning and recruitment period (January through June) for the species. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

No sensitive species that would be impacted by construction of the low-pressure sewer system, extension of pipelines to existing RV hook-up sites, construction of up to five restrooms, installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, and resurfacing of the existing parking lot were identified. Therefore, no impacts would result.

- e) Installation of the low-pressure sewer system, related pipelines, extension of sewer lines to existing RV hook-up sites, construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms would not require the removal of any tree or other protected native plants. Proposed improvements would occur within previously disturbed areas. The Havasu National Wildlife Refuge and Topock Marsh, located northwest and northeast of the project site, respectively, would not be impacted by the proposed on-site improvements.

No trees or other protected native plants would be removed within or adjacent to the boat launch ramp area. Bulrush stands identified 100 feet southeast and 250 feet northeast of the boat launch ramp, occur a substantial distance from the proposed boat ramp demolition/construction area. No impacts to these bulrush stands would occur as a result of the proposed boat ramp improvements.

- f) Improvements proposed at the Regional Park would not conflict with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan. The Havasu National Wildlife Refuge and Topock Marsh, located northwest and northeast of the project site, respectively, would not be impacted by the proposed on-site improvements.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SUBSTANTIATION (check if the project is located in the Cultural _ or Paleontologic _ Resources overlays or cite results of cultural resource review):

a-d) Installation of the low-pressure sewer system, related pipelines, extension of sewer lines to existing RV hook-up sites, construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms would occur within previously disturbed areas. Grading and excavation for new facilities would disturb less than one acre. The occurrence of archaeological and/or paleontological resources is unknown within the Moabi Regional Park however, the proposed improvements will occur in areas that have been disturbed for park activities over the past 30 years and the disturbance of any unknown resources is not likely. However, should resources be discovered during construction activities, implementation of the following mitigation measure would ensure that impacts would be less than significant.

3. If buried resources are encountered during excavation activities, all work shall be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds. The County will be responsible for construction contract documents allowing monitors to halt or re-direct excavation.

The proposed project includes improvements at the existing Moabi Regional Park. No portion of the site is used for human burial, and no known human remains occur on-site. In the event human remains are discovered, the County Sheriff's Department and Office of the Coroner would be contacted immediately. No impacts to human remains are expected to result from proposed improvements.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS — Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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iv) Landslides?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check __ if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District):

- a) Based on the review of the Fault Activity Map of California prepared by the Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology, the Moabi Regional Park is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone, and no known faults pass through the park or occur within the vicinity. The nearest faults to the site include the Dead Mountains Fault, located 18 miles northeast of the park, and the Chemehuevi Graben Fault located 18 miles southeast of the park. No record of recent displacement or potential moment magnitude exists for the Dead Mountains Fault. Review of the Fault Activity Map identifies the fault as Pre-Quaternary (older than 1.6 million years), and indicated within the special notations section of the map it states that some faults were placed within this category because the source of mapping used was of a reconnaissance nature. Additionally, faults within this category are not necessarily inactive.

The Chemehuevi Graben Fault is characterized as a normal fault, capable of producing a moment magnitude 6.0 earthquake. Review of the Fault Activity Map indicated that the last known displacement along the fault occurred during the Late Quaternary (past 700,000 years). The project site, as with any site within California, may be subject to intense ground shaking. However, no inhabited structures are proposed as a part of the project and thus people would not be exposed to undue risk from ground-shaking, and/or seismic-related ground failure. Adhering to the Uniform Building Code during the design and construction of the new restrooms, shower facilities, and renovations proposed for the boat launch ramp area would ensure that geologic impacts are less than significant.

- b) Proposed grading and excavation activities would result in the disturbance of less than one acre of land including the installation of the low-pressure sewer system, related lines, and RV hook-ups, construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of new shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, and resurfacing of the existing parking area. Proposed improvements would occur in previously disturbed areas and would not require the removal of vegetation thereby minimizing the potential for soil erosion by wind and rain. The project would not result in a significant loss of topsoil or soil erosion as no grading or excavation is proposed.
- c-d) The project site is located adjacent to the Colorado River in an area consisting predominately of sandy soils. Soils on-site are of the Holocene age and are characterized as younger alluvium, poorly sorted sands and gravels. Such soils are usually sub-angular to angular and are generally unconsolidated,

able to support loads, and have minimal limitations. Proposed improvements would not create any unstable soils on-site. Additionally, the site is relatively flat with elevations ranging from 480 to 520 feet above mean sea level, making landslide occurrence on-site unlikely. Due to the seasonal fluctuations of water levels within the adjacent Colorado River, there is a potential for high groundwater to occur on-site, making it subject to liquefaction. However, no habitable structures are proposed as part of the project, and therefore no impacts would result.

- e) No septic systems are proposed as part of the project. Proposed improvements on-site include the construction of a low-pressure sewer system to service existing and proposed restrooms and the existing RV camp area along the peninsula. The system was chosen based on the relatively high temperatures and high water table on-site.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS —

Would the project:

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a-d) Proposed improvements at the Moabi Regional park would not require the transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the release of hazardous materials into the environment would not occur. The Moabi Regional Park does not occur on the state's list of hazardous materials sites.
- e-f) According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan Hazards Overlay Map (EKFKC), the Moabi Regional Park is not located within an airport land use plan or airport safety zone. There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the park. The nearest airport to the site is the Needles Municipal airport, located approximately 6.5 miles west, northwest of the site.
- g) All proposed improvements would take place within an existing regional park that has no through traffic. Speed limits within the park are restricted to minimize potential conflicts with pedestrians. Proposed improvements would not require any alterations to the existing circulation system on-site. Therefore the proposed project would not impair any adopted emergency response or evacuation plan for the site or surrounding area.
- h) According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan Hazards Overlay Map (EKFK "C"), the park does not occur within a Fire Hazards Overlay area. Proposed improvements would not place people or structures within a potential wildland fire area.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a/f) The State of California is authorized to administer various aspects of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. The General Construction Permit treats any construction activity over one acre as an industrial activity, requiring a permit under the state's General NPDES permit.

Proposed grading and excavation activities would result in the disturbance of less than one acre of land including the installation of the low-pressure sewer system, related lines, and RV hook-ups, construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of new shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, and resurfacing of the existing parking area. An NPDES Permit would therefore not be required. Proposed improvements would occur in previously disturbed areas and would not require the removal of vegetation thereby minimizing the potential for soil erosion by wind and rain.

Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, persons and/or activities that would disturb any navigable waters or other waters of the United States must apply for a 404 Permit. The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) has jurisdiction of said waters and is authorized by the United States Congress to administer 404 Permits. Since renovation of the existing boat launch ramp area would take place within waters of the United States, the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works, Regional Parks Division is required to submit a 404 Permit application. The County would be required to submit

the appropriate application, fees, and any other plans/reports per the request of the USACE prior to issuance of the 404 permit.

- b-e) Installation of the low-pressure sewer system, related pipe network, construction of up to five new restrooms, installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, and resurfacing of the existing parking area, would not result in the depletion of groundwater or interfere with groundwater recharge. Construction of new restrooms would create a relatively small impermeable area in relation to the overall 1,027-acre site, and therefore would not significantly reduce the amount of area currently available for groundwater recharge (through natural infiltration of surface flows), or create a significant amount of run-off. Additionally, proposed improvements would not alter existing drainage patterns.

Demolition of the existing five-lane boat launch ramp and northern dock and shade ramada to construct a new seven-lane boat launch ramp and dock and shade ramada, and extension of the south courtesy dock to incorporate the Sheriff's Department administrative dock, would not require the alteration of existing drainage patterns within the area. Renovation activities would not alter flows of the adjacent Colorado River.

- g-i) According to the County of San Bernardino Hazards Overlay Map (EKFK "C") the northernmost portion of the peninsula area, specifically Township 8 North, Range 23 East, Section 36, occurs within the 100-year flood plain. This area of the peninsula contains four existing restrooms. Proposed improvements within this area include construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms.

- j) The Moabi Regional Park is located along the west edge of the Colorado River between river mile 235 and 237. A BLM Reclamation gauging station is located at river mile 232 downstream of the park. Based on water levels recorded at the gauging station from January 1998 to July 2003, seasonal fluctuations of the river's surface elevation range between 454 and 450 feet. The 100-year flood level for the area is 462.5 feet. River flows are generally managed by storage facilities (dams) and regular diversions along the length of the river by municipal and agricultural users. Due to the river's relatively fixed seasonal fluctuations, flooding of the park by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow is not expected. Proposed improvements do not include the construction of habitable structures, which would be affected by severe storm or earthquake-related water hazards such as a seiche, tsunami or mudflow. Use of the park during storm events and potential flooding conditions would be monitored by the County to prevent or minimize the risk of property loss, injury, or death.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING — Would the project:

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) Proposed improvements would provide needed amenities for the existing Moabi Regional Park and park patrons. Since improvements would take place within an existing park, no impacts to an established community would occur.
- b) The regional park site is designated in the San Bernardino County General Plan as Resource Conservation. The area surrounding the park is also designated Resource Conservation. Surrounding land uses include Topock Marsh to the east, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge to the north, and open space to the south and west of the site. Proposed improvements would not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project.
- c) Proposed improvements would not conflict with any known applicable habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. MINERAL RESOURCES — Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION (check X if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay):

- a-b) According to the State of California Department of Conservation Mineral Land Classification Map, portions of the Moabi Regional Park occur within Mineral Resource Zone MRZ-3a, which is described as an area underlain by geologic settings within which undiscovered mineral resources similar to known deposits in the same producing district or region may be reasonably expected to exist. There are no known plans to extract minerals on-site or within the vicinity. Since resources are hypothetical and the park is an existing land use, proposed improvements would not result in a significant loss of a known mineral resource.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. NOISE — Would the project result in:

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|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION (check if the project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District ____ or is subject to severe noise levels according to the General Plan Noise Element __):

- a-b) The proposed improvements at the Moabi Regional Park including the construction of up to five new restrooms, installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, installation of a low-pressure sewer system and extension of pipes to existing/proposed restrooms and RV hook-up sites, and resurfacing of the existing parking lot, are not anticipated to result in excessive noise levels or vibrations in excess of County of San Bernardino standards. The improvement area is located approximately 0.5 miles northwest of existing on-site mobile home residents. Project-related construction noise would be short-term and limited to hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No demolition/construction activities shall occur on Sundays and on national holidays. Given the distance to existing residents and the estimated short (three month) construction period, noise impacts would be less than significant.

Proposed improvements for the boat launch ramp area would occur 200 feet southwest of the mobile home park. Since demolition is proposed, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented to ensure noise levels are reduced to a less than significant level:

- On-site residents and campers shall be notified at least three days in advance of the time and date of schedule demolition activities.**

5. Demolition and construction shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No demolition/construction activities shall occur on Sundays and on national holidays.

- c-d) Ambient Noise levels from proposed demolition/construction activities would temporarily increase current ambient noise levels at the Park. However, construction would be limited to daytime hours and would be conducted in accordance with the County's noise standards. Impacts to ambient noise levels would be less than significant.
- e-f) According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan Hazards Overlay Map (EKFK "C"), the Moabi Regional Park is not located within an airport land use plan or airport safety zone. There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the park. The nearest airport to the site is the Needles Municipal Airport, located approximately 6.5 miles west, northwest of the site.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING — Would the project:

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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) Proposed improvements to the existing Moabi Regional Park would not induce population growth in the area either directly or indirectly. No new homes are proposed on-site. Installation of the low-pressure sewer system would have the capacity to serve existing and proposed restrooms/showers and RV camp hook-ups within the peninsula area. Installation of the system would not indirectly induce people or businesses to move to the area. Therefore no growth impacts would result from the proposed project.
- b) Proposed improvements would not require the displacement or removal of any existing housing.
- c) No displacement of homes or people would occur as a result of the proposed project.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES —

- a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) Fire Protection – The City of Needles Fire Department currently serves the existing Moabi Regional Park. Fire hydrants and water lines are located at various locations within the park. Water lines would be extended only on-site to serve the area proposed for new restrooms/shower facilities. Construction of up to five new restrooms and expansion of existing restrooms to incorporate new shower facilities would have no impact to fire service currently provided at the site. Additional fire hydrants may be required for protection of the new restroom facilities and would be located in accordance with County fire officials. Renovation of the existing boat launch ramp would not significantly increase square footage of the existing ramp (two additional lanes each measuring 11 feet wide and 20 feet in length). No impacts to existing fire protection would result.

Police Protection - Additional police protection is not required as proposed improvements would not change current park hours and are not anticipated to result in an increase in park visitors.

Schools - The proposed construction of park improvements would not generate a substantial number of new job opportunities or induce people to move to the project area. Therefore, the parkland improvements will not adversely impact local schools.

Parks - Proposed construction activities would be short-term and would not generate a substantial number of new job opportunities or induce people to move to the project area. No impacts to existing parks would result from implementation of the proposed project.

Public facilities – Park improvements would not require the extension of existing roads at the park or within the vicinity. The parkland improvements will not significantly increase traffic on adjacent streets or create a need for additional public facilities.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. RECREATION —

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a/b) Proposed improvements would provide the existing Moabi Regional Park with needed amenities including additional restrooms, new shower facilities, sewer hook-ups within the existing RV camp area, and a wider boat ramp. Proposed improvements would add to the recreational opportunities available to the area.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC — Would the project:

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Result in inadequate parking capacity? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a-b) The proposed project includes improvements at the existing Moabi Regional Park. Improvements would include construction of up to five new restrooms, construction of shower facilities in existing and proposed restrooms, installation of a low-pressure sewage collection system to serve existing and proposed restrooms and existing RV campsites, and renovation of the park's boat launching ramp. Since the project does not include the expansion of the camp area or additional on-site amenities such as an equestrian center, existing vehicle trips are not anticipated to increase.
- c) According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan Hazards Overlay Map (EKFK "C"), the Moabi Regional Park is not located within an airport land use plan or airport safety zone. There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the park. The nearest airport to the site is the Needles Municipal airport, located approximately 6.5 miles west, northwest of the site. The proposed project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns.
- d-e) Access to the park and the existing on-site circulation pattern would not change as a result of the proposed project. Additionally, emergency access would not be affected.
- f) The proposed project includes the resurfacing of the existing parking lot on-site. No additional parking spaces are proposed and improvements proposed on-site do not warrant additional spaces. Adequate parking would continue to be provided.
- g) Proposed improvements to the existing Moabi Regional Park would not conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS — Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill(s) with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a-g) The proposed park improvements, would not result in impacts to existing utilities, exceed wastewater treatment requirements, result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities, require the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities, or impact the supply of water.

The proposed sewer collection system to serve the Peninsula would be additional to, but entirely separate from, the existing gravity sewer collection system that currently provides service to the ranger station, mobile home park, and boat ramp areas located near the entrance of the park. A three-cell sewage percolation/evaporation lagoon is the disposal point for the current system. The existing lagoons would also be used for disposal of sewage collected in the new system.

In August 2003, Fraser Engineering, Inc. prepared a Design Report for the proposed sewer system. The report provided analysis of different systems, site conditions, and cost efficiency. As concluded in the report the low-pressure sewer system would be required to meet all applicable state and federal design criteria, be technologically compatible with the topography and geology of the area, provide a record demonstrating performance under similar environmental conditions, and use construction techniques common within California. Installation of a centralized on-site low-pressure sewer system would not require the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility or the expansion of any existing facilities.

The construction of up to five new restrooms and installation of showers within existing and proposed restrooms would not require the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or substantially impact the supply of water. Improvements to the existing park would not permanently increase solid waste generation or violate any federal, state, or local statutes related to solid waste. A temporary increase in the amount of solid waste generated at the site is expected to result during demolition of the

existing boat launch ramp and northern dock and shade ramada. However impacts would be short-term, and the existing ramp and landing are relatively small at approximately 2,750 square feet and 400 square feet, respectively and would not likely exceed daily permitted tonnage at the receiving landfill. Impacts would be less than significant.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE—

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|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause Substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly Or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SUBSTANTIATION:

- a) Proposed site improvements associated with installation of a low-pressure sewer system and related pipelines, RV sewer hook-ups, and construction of up to five new restrooms and shower facilities within the existing and proposed restrooms, would occur entirely within previously disturbed areas and/or along existing roadways. No federal or state listed species would be impacted from construction activities proposed within the peninsula area.

Federally endangered species, which may occur near the boat launch ramp area, include the bonytail chub, razorback sucker, and Yuma clapper rail. A summary of potential impacts, as described in the Biological Resource section of this Initial Study, is discussed herein.

The proposed project area is located within designated Critical Habitat for the bonytail chub. Proposed expansion of the boat launch ramp would result in a minor modification of designated Critical Habitat for the bonytail chub. However, the boat launch ramp is located in a backwater area not typical of bonytail chub habitat. Therefore proposed renovations activities at the existing boat launch ramp would not adversely affect the bonytail chub.

The razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) is a federally listed endangered species. Critical habitat is designated along the Colorado River and its 100-year floodplain from the confluence of the Pariah River to Hoover Dam, including Lake Mead, and from Parker Dam to Imperial Dam. The proposed

project is not located within designated Critical Habitat. However, the waters near the boat launch ramp area provide potential open water and backwater habitat for the razorback sucker. Renovation of the boat launch ramp would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water. It is anticipated that razorback suckers, if present, would move out of the construction area as these types of sounds typically frighten fish. Proposed demolition/construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, between September and December, and therefore would not disrupt the spawning and recruitment period (January through June) for the razorback sucker. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

The Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) is listed as endangered by the federal government without designated Critical Habitat. The waters near the boat launch ramp area do not contain suitable habitat for the Yuma clapper rail. A small stand of bulrush occurs approximately 100 feet southeast of the boat ramp renovation project area, and a larger stand of bulrush occurs across the channel (approximately 250 feet) to the northeast of the boat launch ramp. As the Yuma clapper rail may occur in the vicinity of the boat launch ramp project site due to the proximity of the Topock Marsh, the bulrush areas could provide potential habitat for the Yuma clapper rail. No direct impacts to these bulrush stands would occur as a result of the proposed boat ramp renovation. Launch ramp renovation activities would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water, which could disturb the Yuma clapper rail if present. Proposed construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, September and December, which is outside of the clapper rail nesting season. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

Sensitive Species

The flannemouth sucker is a sensitive species that was determined to potentially occur within the vicinity of the boat launch ramp area. The flannemouth sucker (*Catostomus fetipinnis*) is considered common within the Colorado River drainage from southwest Wyoming to southern Arizona. The proposed boat launch ramp expansion area provides potential habitat for the flannemouth sucker. Launch ramp renovation activities would result in an increase in noise levels and vibrations in the water, which could disturb the flannemouth sucker if present. Proposed construction activities would occur during the off-season of the park, from September through December, and therefore would not disrupt the spawning and recruitment period (January through June) for the species. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

No sensitive species that would be impacted by construction of the low-pressure sewer system, extension of pipelines to existing RV hook-up sites, construction of up to five restrooms, installation of shower facilities within existing and proposed restrooms, and resurfacing of the existing parking lot were identified. Therefore, no impacts would result.

- b) The potential impacts associated with improvements proposed for both the peninsula and other mainland areas, and the boat launch ramp area were analyzed individually and cumulatively. Individual impacts associated with the proposed project would be minimized to a less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measures presented in this Initial Study. No cumulative impacts were identified.
- c) The project has been designed to reduce and/or eliminate potential impacts to the environment and human beings. No adverse effects that were not mitigated to a level of less than significant were identified in the Initial Study.

SECTION XVIII SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

AIR QUALITY

1. A periodic flushing system shall be installed to allow flushing of the wet wells and pipelines. The system shall be chosen based on flexibility so that the operator can modify the flush characteristics (i.e. frequency, timing, and duration) to accommodate various field and system conditions.
2. The low-pressure sewer system shall be constructed to discharge along the floor of the first lagoon cell adjacent to the existing forcemain discharge.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

3. If buried resources are encountered during excavation activities, all work shall be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds. The County will be responsible for construction contract documents allowing monitors to halt or re-direct excavation.

NOISE

4. On-site residents and campers shall be notified at least three days in advance of the time and date of scheduled demolition activities.
5. Demolition and construction shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No demolition/construction activities shall occur on Sundays and on national holidays.

REFERENCES (List author or agency, title and date)

County of San Bernardino General Plan and related Land Use maps (EKFK - Needles/Parker Area, 1998).

Himes Consulting LLC, Biological Evaluation for Moabi Regional Park Improvements, San Bernardino County, California, November 2003.

Fraser Engineering, Inc., Design Report for Low-Pressure Sewer System, Moabi Regional Park, August 2003.

California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology, Mineral Land Classification of the Northeast Quarter of Needles, California, 1985.

California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology, Fault Activity Map of California and Adjacent Areas, compiles by Charles W. Jennings, 1994.